



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Offic

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Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/276, 277 03/25/99 BULLARD W 10360/022001

TM02/1003

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EXAMINER

MORSE, G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2167

DATE MAILED:

10/03/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/276,277	Applicant(s) Bullard
Examiner Greg Morse	Art Unit 2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

18) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

19) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 4

20) Other: _____

Art Unit: 2167

DETAILED ACTION

1. The preliminary amendment of 6/12/2000 has been received and entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 18, 20-23, 26-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by The XACCT Usage Overview of 1997, cited by applicant as document AC. That document describes a system which, as described on page 5, uses a Gatherer to map information from several sources to a single session (record enhancement). These data from different sources will be sent under different protocols (DHCP = Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol) in order to compile a meaningful session record.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

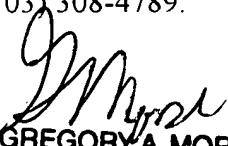
Art Unit: 2167

4. Claims 2-17, 19, 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the XACCT usage overview as applied to Claim 1, in view of the "ICMP Protocol Overview", and further in view of Kerr et al., U.S. patent 6,243,667. The XACCT usage overview shows an system that consolidates session history for accounting purposes. The "ICMP Protocol Overview" is cited to provide background of the ICMP protocol, which generally involves error/problem reports from outside the normal flow of packets. Kerr et al. teaches that it is desirable to associate an incoming packet with a previous history of the session if such a history exists. The use of the XACCT Usage product to collect and associate packets of different protocol types including TCP and ICMP and correlate them to a single session would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in view of Kerr et al.'s teaching of building a flow history.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Voit et al. and Zhang et al. teach handling objects from different protocols.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Greg Morse whose telephone number is (703) 308-4789.



GREGORY A. MORSE
PRIMARY EXAMINER